

Fishery Fact Sheet

CECAF Fisheries Reports 2013

Spain Bottom wet fish trawlers black hake fishery - Mauritanian waters, 2013

Chalutiers espagnols de pêche fraîche au merlus noir

Data Ownership

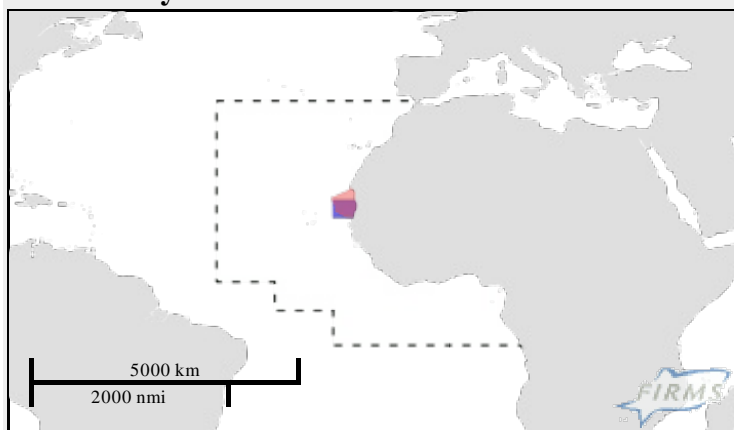
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Fishery life cycle

The fishing agreement is expired in 2012 but the licences have been extended up to date.

Overview: *The fishery targets black hakes (*M. polli* and *M. senegalensis*), constituting both species together the 90% of the catches. Main by-catch species are anglers, dories, elasmobranchians and other fishes, with smaller proportions in the last years. These vessels used to operate in Mauritanian waters throughout all the year and in Senegalese waters between September and April, following the seasonal migration pattern of these species. However, the Senegalese fishing ground has not been visited since 2006 because of the expiry of the EU/Senegal Fishing Agreement in June of that year. Fishing trips have an average duration of 10 days. Catches are classified and landed in four commercial categories, being preserved in ice. Therefore, bigger specimens are eviscerated. The transport of the refrigerated catches is done by merchant vessels or by lorries from the port of Las Palmas (Canary Islands), or from Mauritanian ports to the port of Cádiz, which constitutes the traditional sale ports for black hake. Because of the similarity between the two species of black hakes, they are mixed in landing in the fish markets, recorded in the statistics as *Merluccius* spp. and evaluated together.*

Location of Spain Bottom wet fish trawlers black hake fishery - Mauritanian waters



Main layers

- FAO areas and their sub-divisions
- EEZ

APPROACH: FISHING ACTIVITY

Fishing Activity

Fishing Gear: Bottom otter trawls
 Type of production system : Commercial;
 Industrial
 Fishery Area: Mauritania; Atlantic, East ...
 Seasonality: All year long

Harvested Resource

Target Species: Senegalese hake; Benguela hake
 Associated Species: John dory; Blackbelly rosefish; Sharks, rays, skates, etc. nei ...
[more>>](#)

<div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>EEZ</div> </div> <div> <div></div> <div>FAO major fishing areas</div> </div> </div> <div> <div> <div></div> <div>200 nautical miles arcs</div> </div> </div> </div>	Means of Production Vessel Type: Stern trawlers wet-fish
Geographic reference: Spain Spatial Scale: National	Fishery Indicators Nominal Effort: Number of vessels Participation: Number of fishermen Production: Catch total; Catch <i>Merluccius</i> spp.; Catch <i>L. vaillanti</i> ; Catch <i>Z. faber</i> ; Catch <i>H. dactylopterus</i>

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History

A fleet based in the Port of Cadiz (Andalucía, South West Spain) has traditionally exploited black hakes in North West African waters since the decade of the 50s. This fleet has specially operated in the Mauritanian fishing ground, first through private agreements and since 1987, into the framework of Agreements between the European Community and Mauritania. At the beginning, the fleet was composed of big and powerful vessels that, since the year 2000 were gradually replaced by smaller and more modern vessels based in Ports of Galicia (North West Spain). This fleet has drastically reduced its number in the last 20 years, from 37 vessels in 1990 to only 8 operating nowadays, based at ports from Galicia and Canary Islands.

Fishing Activity

Type of production system: Commercial; Industrial

Fishery Area

Climatic zone: Temperate. Bottom type: Soft_bottom_clean_sand; Soft_bottom_muddy_or_muddy-sand. Depth zone: Shelf (50 m - 200 m); Slope (200 m - 1000 m). Horizontal distribution: Neritic. Vertical distribution: Demersal/Benthic.

Geo References for: Mauritania

Mauritania

Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ)	MRT - Mauritania
FAO Fishing Statistical Subdivisions	34.3.11 - Atlantic, East central / 34.3.11

More Geo References

The following area codes have been found as intersecting the location of Spain Bottom wet fish trawlers black hake fishery - Mauritanian waters

FAO Major Fishing Areas	34 - Atlantic, Eastern Central
Large Marine Ecosystem Areas (LME)	27 - Canary Current

The Mauritanian coast is part of one of the four major trade-wind driven continental margin upwelling zones in the world oceans, the northwestern African upwelling system (or the Canary Current System). In the Eastern Central Atlantic, the dynamics of an eastern boundary current interacting with trade

wind-driven upwelling control this marine ecosystem with exceptionally high primary and secondary productivity (Cury and Roy, 1989; Binet, 1997; Demarcq and Faure, 2000). The upwelling off Mauritania is being described as a wind driven upwelling system restricted to a narrow strip along the coast. It can be separated into two regimes: south of approximately 20°N upwelling is most pronounced during winter and spring, whereas upwelling north of 20°N occurs all year round with a maximum intensity in summer and early fall (Mittelstaedt, 1991). The marked seasonality of upwellings and the latitudinal displacement through the Mauritanian and Senegalese coasts, produce important changes in the structure of the biological communities. In short periods (weeks), the system can alternate from a warm equatorial phase to a cold subtropical phase, this deriving in an alternated dominance between tropical and temperate communities (Meiners, 2007). Off Cape Blanc the upwelling occurs throughout the year with periods of stronger intensity, while it lasts nine months off Nouakchott.

Resources Exploited

Senegal hake, Benguela hake - Mauritania, Senegal and Gambia

European flying squid - Northwest Africa

Other resources: Stocks of anglers, John dory, rosefishes, dharks and schedophilus.

Target Species

Merluccius senegalensis

FAO Names : en - Senegalese hake, fr - Merlu du Sénégal, es - Merluza del Senegal, ru - Мерлуза синегальская

Merluccius polli

FAO Names : en - Benguela hake, fr - Merlu d'Afrique tropicale, es - Merluza de Benguela, ru - Мерлуза бенгальская

Adults and juveniles

Associated Species (Bycatch)

Zeus faber

FAO Names : en - John dory, fr - Saint Pierre, es - Pez de San Pedro, ru - Солнечник обыкновенный

Helicolenus dactylopterus

FAO Names : en - Blackbelly rosefish, fr - Sébaste chèvre, es - Gallineta

Elasmobranchii

FAO Names : en - Sharks, rays, skates, etc. nei, fr - Requins, raies, etc. nca, es - Tiburones, rayas, etc. nep, ru - Пластиножаберные (акулы, скаты)

Schedophilus spp

FAO Names : en - Schedophilus nei, fr - Rouffes nca, es - Rufos nep

Adults and juveniles

Discarded Species (Bycatch)

Lophius vaillanti

FAO Names : en - Shortspine African angler, fr - Baudroie africaine, es - Rape africano, ar - عفریت البحر إفريقي, zh - 短鳍鮟鱂

Scorpaenidae

FAO Names : en - Scorpionfishes nei, fr - Rascasses, etc. nca, es - Rascacios, gallinetas nep, ru - Скорпеновые

Lithodidae

FAO Names : en - King crabs, stone crabs nei, fr - Crabes royaux, etc. nca, es - Centollas, centollones
nep, ru - Крабонидовые

Todarodes sagittatus

FAO Names : en - European flying squid, fr - Toutenon commun, es - Pota europea

Todaropsis eblanae

FAO Names : en - Lesser flying squid, fr - Toutenon souffleur, es - Pota costera, ar - نو الأذرع العشر طائر أدنى, zh - 小柔鱼

Trachyrincus scabrus

FAO Names : en - Roughsnout grenadier, ru - Жесткокрыл

Nezumia spp

Coelorinchus caelorhincus

FAO Names : en - Hollowsnout grenadier, fr - Grenadier raton, es - Granadero tristón

Malacocephalus laevis

FAO Names : en - Softhead grenadier

Malacocephalus occidentalis

FAO Names : en - Western softhead grenadier

Munida spp

FAO Names : null

Commercial fish species as *Lophius vaillanti*, some species of sharks, rays and Scorpenidae (among other fishes). Crustaceans belonging to the family Lithodidae; and small quantities (in weight) of cephalopods as the flying squids *Todarodes sagittatus* and *Todaropsis eblanae*. The most abundant non commercial species are fishes belonging to the Family Macrouridae (*Trachyrincus scabrus*, *Nezumia* spp, *Coelorinchus caelorhincus*, *Malacocephalus laevis*, *M. occidentalis*, among others) and crustaceans of the Family Galatheididae (*Munida* spp).

Juveniles (commercial species) or unspecified (other species)

Related Fisheries - Fishery(ies) switching activity seasonally or targeting the same stock

Spain Bottom trawl black hake fishery - Senegalese waters

Spain Bottom wet fish trawler black hake fishery - Moroccan Atlantic coast waters, South 29°N

Vessel Type

Stern trawlers wet-fish

Flag State

Average characteristics in 2007 were 281 GRT, 478 h.p and 32 m length.

Catch Handling and Processing Equipment

Hakes are classified by commercial categories, depending on their sizes, being the largest eviscerated. Catches are preserved in ice.

Crew

16-18 persons (Spanish, Mauritanian and Senegalese nationality) (2009)

Fleet segment

Bottom otter trawl for demersal fish with 70 mm minimum mesh

At the beginning, the fleet was based in the Port of Cadiz. They were the bigger and most powerful Spanish vessels operating in North West Africa. Since 2000, the fleet was renovated to smaller vessels, these based in ports from Galicia (North-West Spain) and the Canary Islands. They are locally called “bous”.

Fishing Gear

Bottom otter trawls

The gear employed is the classic bottom otter trawl. This gear operates with polyvalent trawl doors. The net is constructed in conventional polyethylene, with thread thickness of 3-4 mm, being very elastic and resistant to abrasion. The net is 80 mm mesh size, excepting the cod-end, which is 70 mm and rhombic-shape.

Seasonality

All year long

Trip Duration

10-12 fishing days

Ports

Las Palmas (Gran Canaria) in the Canary Islands and Marín, Vigo (Pontevedra) and La Coruña in Galicia (NW Iberian Peninsula).

Fishery Indicators

Type	Measure	Value	Unit	Time period
Nominal Effort	Number of vessels	8	vessels	2008
Participation	Number of fishermen	128-145	persons	2009
Production	Catch total	5931	tonnes	2005-2009
	Catch <i>Merluccius</i> spp.	5480	tonnes	2005-2009
	Catch <i>L. vaillanti</i>	102	tonnes	2005-2009
	Catch <i>Z. faber</i>	118	tonnes	2005-2009
	Catch <i>H. dactylopterus</i>	34	tonnes	2005-2009

Post Harvest

Fish Utilisation

Consumption

Markets

Cádiz (S Spain). The transport of refrigerated catch is done by merchant vessels or by lorries from the port of Las Palmas, or from Mauritanian ports to the port of Cadiz, which is the traditional sale port for black hakes.

Management

Management unit : No

Jurisdictional framework

Management Body/Authority(ies): Ministère des pêches et de l'économie maritime

Mandate: Management.

Area under national jurisdiction: Mauritania

Maritime Area: Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ).

Management Body/Authority(ies): European Union

Mandate: Flag state responsibility for its fishing vessels operating in foreign area under national jurisdiction.

Area under national jurisdiction: Mauritania

Maritime Area: Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ).

Legal definition

Black hake trawlers and bottom longliners

Management Regime

Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (for the period 1 August 2008 to 31 July 2012) (OJ L 203, 31.07.2008, p. 4–59).

Management measures of the Spanish bottom trawl black hake fishery are included in the current Fishery Agreement between the European Community and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania (OJ L 203, 31.07.2008, p. 4–59) under the fishing category 2: “Black hake trawlers and bottom longliners”.

Fishing agreement expired in July 2012. The new fishing agreement is in the ratification process by the European Parliament, but this type of licences has been extended up to date.

Management Methods

Conservation and management measures with focus to Effort control (licences system), catch control and fish size limits

- *Aquatic species-related measures*

Minimum fish sizes established by the Fishing Agreement: Hakes (*Merluccius* spp.): 30 cm.
Limitation of by-catches: 25% fish, 0% cephalopods and crustaceans.

- *Gear-related measures*

Gear type (bottom logline and bottom trawl for hake; doubling of the cod-end prohibited and doubling of the twine forming the cod-end prohibited), mesh size (minimum mesh size: 70 mm for the trawl net).

- *Vessel-related measures*

Access control: Vessel type (size-Maximum 3 240 GT/per licence period for both longliners and bottom trawlers).

- *Fishing activity-related measures*

Licences, vessel number (Maximum 3 240 GT/per licence period for both longliners and bottom trawlers), closed area (out of the fishing area established by the Agreement) and closed season (to be determined).

Related Fisheries - Fishing activity(ies) managed under the same management unit or being ruled by the same fishing agreement

Spain Freezer bottom trawl shrimp fishery - Mauritanian waters

Spain Freezing bottom trawlers octopus fishery - Mauritanian waters

Spain Longliners black hake fishery - Mauritanian waters

More information on fisheries legislation at: FAOLEX legislative database

Status and Trends

Licences, vessel number (Maximum 3 240 GT/per licence period for both longliners and bottom trawlers), closed area (out of the fishing area established by the Agreement) and closed season (to be determined).

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